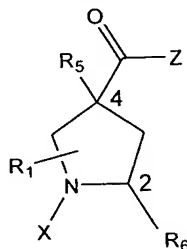


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A compound having the formula



(I)

where:

X represents a first amine protecting group that is different from Y;

Y represents a second amine protecting group that is different from X;

Z represents a weak leaving group;

R₁ represents an H, ~~or a functional group~~; and can be attached to the molecule at positions 2, 3 or 5;

~~R₂ represents an H or a functional group;~~

R₅ represents ~~N₃ or NR₂Y~~ NH-Y;

R₆ represents a carboxylic acid ~~or a strongly activated ester~~; and

the stereochemical configuration at positions 2 and 4 ~~and of the carbon bearing R₁~~
~~(if R₁ is not H) can be any one of (S,S,S), (S,S,R), (S,R,S), (S,R,R), (R,S,S),~~
~~(R,S,R), (R,R,S) or (R,R,R) is selected from the group consisting of (R,R), (R,S),~~
(S,R), and (S,S).

Claims 2-3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (original): The compound of Claim 1, wherein Z is OMe.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The compound of Claim 1, wherein X is selected from the group consisting of benzyl-carbamate and t-butyl carbamate.

Claim 6 (original): The compound of Claim 1, wherein Y is 2-nitrobenzenesulfonamide.

Claim 7 (original): The compound of Claim 1, wherein Y is 9-fluoroenylmethylcarbamate.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The compound of Claim 1, wherein X is benzylcarbamate, R_5 is $-\text{NH}-Y$, NR_2 is H , R_2 is H , Y is 9-fluoroenylmethylcarbamate, Z is $-\text{OMe}$, and R_6 is a carboxylic acid.

Claims 9-12 (canceled).

Claims 13-294 (withdrawn).

Claim 295 (new): The compound of Claim 1, wherein X is t-butyl carbamate, Y is 9-fluoroenylmethylcarbamate, and Z is $-\text{OMe}$.

Claim 296 (new): The compound of Claim 1, wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of carboxy protecting groups, alkoxides, thiolates, azide, and sulfonamides.

Claim 297 (new): The compound of Claim 1, wherein the first amine protecting group is selected from the group consisting of formyl, trityl, phenylfluorenyl, phthalimido, trichloroacetyl, chloroacetyl, bromoacetyl, iodoacetyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, 4-phenylbenzyloxycarbonyl, 2-methylbenzyloxycarbonyl, 4-methoxybenzyloxycarbonyl, 4-fluorobenzyloxycarbonyl, 4-chlorobenzyloxycarbonyl, 3-chlorobenzyloxycarbonyl, 2-chlorobenzyloxycarbonyl, 2,4-dichlorobenzyloxycarbonyl, 4-bromobenzyloxycarbonyl, 3-bromobenzyloxycarbonyl, 4-nitrobenzyloxycarbonyl, 4-cyanobenzyloxycarbonyl, t-butyl carbamate, 2-(4-xenyl)-isopropoxycarbonyl, 1,1-diphenyleth-1-yloxycarbonyl, 1,1-diphenylprop-1-yloxycarbonyl, 2-phenylprop-2-yloxycarbonyl, 2-(p-toluy)-prop-2-yloxycarbonyl, cyclopentanyloxy-carbonyl, 1-methylcyclopentanyloxy-carbonyl, cyclohexanyloxy-carbonyl, 1-methylcyclohexanyloxy-carbonyl, 2-methylcyclohexanyloxy-carbonyl, 2-(4-toluy)sulfonyl-ethoxycarbonyl, 2-(methylsulfonyl)-ethoxycarbonyl, 2-(triphenylphosphino)-ethoxycarbonyl, fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl, 2-(trimethylsilyl)-ethoxycarbonyl, allyloxycarbonyl, 1-(trimethylsilylmethyl)prop-1-enyloxycarbonyl, 5-benzisoxalylmethoxycarbonyl, 4-acetoxybenzyloxycarbonyl, 2,2,2-trichloroethoxycarbonyl, 2-ethynyl-2-

propoxycarbonyl, cyclopropylmethoxycarbonyl, 4-(decyloxy)benzyloxycarbonyl, isobornyloxycarbonyl, 1-piperidyloxycarbonyl, benzoylmethylsulfonyl group, 2-nitrobenzenesulfonyl, 2-nitrophenylsulfenyl, and diphenylphosphine oxide.

Claim 298 (new): The compound of Claim 1, wherein the first amine protecting group is selected from the group consisting of 9-fluorenylmethyl carbamate, allyl carbamate, benzyl carbamate, substituted benzyl carbamate, t-butyl carbamate, 1-adamantyl carbamate, 2-nitrobenzenesulfonyl, triphenylmethyl, (4-methoxyphenyl)diphenylmethyl, and 9-phenylfluorenyl.

Claim 299 (new): The compound of Claim 1, wherein the second amine protecting group is selected from the group consisting of formyl, trityl, phenylfluorenyl, phthalimido, trichloroacetyl, chloroacetyl, bromoacetyl, iodoacetyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, 4-phenylbenzyloxycarbonyl, 2-methylbenzyloxycarbonyl, 4-methoxybenzyloxycarbonyl, 4-fluorobenzyloxycarbonyl, 4-chlorobenzyloxycarbonyl, 3-chlorobenzyloxycarbonyl, 2-chlorobenzyloxycarbonyl, 2,4-dichlorobenzyloxycarbonyl, 4-bromobenzyloxycarbonyl, 3-bromobenzyloxycarbonyl, 4-nitrobenzyloxycarbonyl, 4-cyanobenzyloxycarbonyl, t-butyl carbamate, 2-(4-xenyl)-isopropoxycarbonyl, 1,1-diphenyleth-1-yloxycarbonyl, 1,1-diphenylprop-1-yloxycarbonyl, 2-phenylprop-2-yloxycarbonyl, 2-(p-toluy)-prop-2-yloxycarbonyl, cyclopentanyloxy-carbonyl, 1-methylcyclopentanyloxycarbonyl, cyclohexanyloxycarbonyl, 1-methylcyclohexanyloxycarbonyl, 2-methylcyclohexanyloxycarbonyl, 2-(4-toluy)sulfonyl)-ethoxycarbonyl, 2-(methylsulfonyl)ethoxycarbonyl, 2-(triphenylphosphino)-ethoxycarbonyl, fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl, 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethoxycarbonyl, allyloxycarbonyl, 1-(trimethylsilylmethyl)prop-1-enyloxycarbonyl, 5-benzisoxalylmethoxycarbonyl, 4-acetoxybenzyloxycarbonyl, 2,2,2-trichloroethoxycarbonyl, 2-ethynyl-2-propoxycarbonyl, cyclopropylmethoxycarbonyl, 4-(decyloxy)benzyloxycarbonyl, isobornyloxycarbonyl, 1-piperidyloxycarbonyl, benzoylmethylsulfonyl group, 2-nitrobenzenesulfonyl, 2-nitrophenylsulfenyl, and diphenylphosphine oxide.

Claim 300 (new): The compound of Claim 1, wherein the second amine protecting group is selected from the group consisting of 9-fluorenylmethyl carbamate, allyl carbamate, benzyl carbamate, substituted benzyl carbamate, t-butyl carbamate, 1-

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adamantyl carbamate, 2-nitrobenzenesulfonyl, triphenylmethyl, (4-
methoxyphenyl)diphenylmethyl, and 9-phenylfluorenyl.